

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **27 January 2009**, the Examiner reviewed claims 63-65, 68-75, 77-84, 86-88, 90, 92, 94-95, 101-109, and 112-127. Examiner rejected claims 63-65, 78-79, 82, 86-88, 90, 92, 101-102, 106, 108-109, 112-115, 119-122, and 124-127 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,701,088, hereinafter “Watanabe”), and Desai et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,139,247, hereinafter “Desai”). Examiner objected to claims 68-75, 77, 80-81, 83-84, 94-95, 103-105, 107, and 123 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Allowable Subject Matter

Examiner objected to claims 68-75, 77, 80-81, 83-84, 94-95, 103-105, 107, and 123 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has re-written allowable claims 68-69 jointly in independent form as claim 63. Applicant has re-written allowable claims 92 and 94 jointly in independent form as claim 88. Furthermore, applicant has incorporated similar allowable subject matter in independent claims 108 and 112. Applicant has also amended these claims to remove unnecessary limitations.

In addition, applicant has amended claims 103, 106, 114, 115, 119, 120, 124, 125, and 127 to maintain language consistency. No new matter has been added.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 63, 88, 108, and 112 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 64, 65, 68-75, 77-84, 86, 87, and 126, which depend upon claim 63, claims 90, 92, 94-95, 101-107, and 127, which depend upon claim 88, claim 109, which depends upon claim 108, and claims 113-115, 119-122, 124, and 125, which depend upon claim 112, are in condition for allowance for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the application is presently in form for allowance.
Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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